GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1249
ANSWERED ON:26.11.2001
TOURISM DEVELOPMENT FUND
BRAHMANAND MANDAL;RAJO SINGH;SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the names of States including Bihar, for which Planning Commission has been asked for to formulate a tourism development fund;

(b) the status of Shringi Rishi Ashram, Rishi Kund, Sita Kund, Sita Charan, Kashtaharni Ghaat, Bhim Bhandh and Chandi-sthan ir district Mungher in Bihar;

(c) whether the Government intend to formulate a scheme to convert these places into international tourist centres by renovating and upkeeping them;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF TOURISM,STATISTICS & PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI JAGMOHAN)

(a) : Department of Tourism, Government of India has formulated a scheme to constitute Tourism Development Fund with the objective of bridging gaps in critical infrastructure and to generate funds for development of tourism infrastructure in the country. It is proposed to create Tourism Development Fund with an authorised outlay of Rs.50.00 crores. The proposal is under the consideration of Planning Commission.

(b) to (e) : Department of Tourism, Government of India has a scheme to grant Central financial assistancefor development of infrastructure at the places of tourist interest. Financial assistance is provided every year in consultation with the State Government/UT Administration. A proposal to Construct Tourist Complex at Bhim Bhandh has been sanctioned for an amount of Rs.49.28 lakhs and first instalment of Rs.14.78 lakhs has already been released during 2000-2001. The Department of Tourism has schemes for improvement of tourist facilities including renovation & refurbishment. However, development of tourist places is the responsibility of State Governments/UT Administrations and Government of India provides funds under Central Financial Assistance schemes.